

06-30-09

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

---- In the Matter of ----)
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION) DOCKET NO. 2008-0303
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.)
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.)
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED)
For Approval of the Advanced Metering)
Infrastructure (AMI) Project and Request)
To Commit Capital Funds, to Defer and)
Amortize Software Development Costs,)
To Begin Installation of Meters and)
Implement Time-of-Use Rates, for)
Approval of Accounting and Ratemaking)
Treatment, and Other Matters)

PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

2009 JUN 30 P 1:28

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HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE'S AND
HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION'S
INFORMATION REQUESTS
ON
THE DIRECT TESTIMONY OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
AND
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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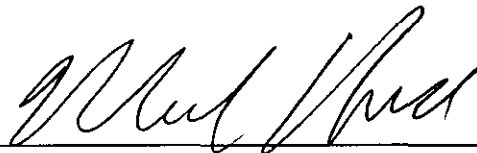
Per the Commission's Order Approving the Stipulated Procedural Order, as modified, filed on April 21, 2009, the Hawaii Renewable energy Alliance ("HREA") and the Hawaii Solar Energy Association ("HSEA") submits its joint information requests on the Consumer Advocate's Direct Testimony T-1, filed on June 22, 2009.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii, June 30, 2009

Respectfully submitted,



Warren S. Bollmeier II
President
Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance



Mark Duda
President
Hawaii Solar Energy Association

**JOINT HREA/HSEA IRs TO THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
ON THEIR T-TESTIMONY ON THE AMI/TOU DOCKET**

In order to expedite and facilitate our ("HREA and HSEA") review, evaluation and analysis of the Consumer Advocate's ("CA's") T-1 Direct Testimony, we respectfully submit the following information requests:

HREA/HSEA-DTIR-1. HREA/HSEA thank the CA for a comprehensive review and assessment of the HECO Companies' request for approval of their proposed AMI/TOU Program. We observe that the CA stopped short of an overall endorsement AMI/TOU proposal, citing a number of concerns in your testimony. We share these concerns, e.g., there isn't a clear statement of the goals and we have questions about the details of cost/benefit analysis that has been provided by the HECO Companies. Given that, we ask the CA to comment on the need for an overall AMI/TOU Design and Implementation Plan to be prepared by the HECO Companies, vetted by the Parties in the instant docket and submitted for approval to the Commission before proceeding further. We suggest the plan include the following elements:

1. a clear statement of needs, goals and objectives related to the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, e.g., AMI to: (i) support customer education, TOU, inclined block rates, demand response, etc., and (ii) integration of these applications into the program,
2. an ongoing review of: (i) AMI and Smart Grid Technology, given that the technology appears to be evolving at a rapid rate, and (ii) cost/benefit analyses of options,
3. an evaluation of AMI and Smart Grid technology standards activities on the mainland and in appropriate international jurisdictions, and an assessment as to how these standards activities can inform the proposed plan for Hawaii,
4. how can AMI/TOU and the Smart Grid best be delivered to all our islands, including pilot TOU applications to gather information for further evaluation and planning,

5. A clear statement of how the HECO Companies' AMI/TOU proposal integrates with the rest of the smart grid plan to enable the interconnection of more renewable generation,
6. a revise teaming arrangement based on competitive bidding, and
7. a revised budget and timeline.

HREA/HSEA-DTIR-2. In its assessment of the Companies' proposed technology, pages 17 to 22, did the CA consider the survivability of system equipment alternatives, e.g., proposed AMI network, leased towers, versus RF mesh and powerline carrier technologies, to extreme weather conditions such as hurricanes and other storm wind conditions and earthquakes? Please explain.

HREA/HSEA-DTIR-3. Referencing the last paragraph on page 33 lines 13 to 18, HREA/HSEA were surprised at the long payback periods of 13, 17 and 20 years for implementation of AMI on HECO, MECO and HELCO, especially given the life expectancy of 15 years for the meters. Does the CA believe it is prudent to approve the AMI should be approved with such long paybacks? Please explain.

HREA/HSEA-DTIR-4. Referencing the discussion of TOU rates on pages 45 to 46, has the CA evaluated the efficacy of application of TOU rates to all customer classes? Please comment as to whether the CA believes it might be appropriate to apply inclining rate block rates to residential and small-commercial users, while reserving TOU for larger customers? Please explain.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

We hereby certify we have this day served the foregoing Joint HREA-HSEA-IRs upon the following parties by causing copies hereof to be hand-delivered or electronically transmitted:

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Date: June 30, 2009



President, HREA



President, HSEA